

Research Proposal – Abstract

This research aims to address the specific oppression faced by black women during the apartheid era of South Africa. Laws that relegated African people to the bottom of the social and political hierarchy affected black women in more ways than one. They battled oppression from a racist society as well as a deeply sexist society. The intersectionality of their oppression created an atmosphere that made it even more difficult for black women to find access to a decent wage, adequate housing or educational opportunity. This research will thus address how black women fought against this oppressive system and strove to create not only racial equality but also gender equality through widespread demonstrations, labor strikes and political organizing. Finally, this research will address the struggles that women in South Africa continue to face as a result of years of socioeconomic oppression. Their difficulty in navigating both the public and private spheres nearly two decades after the end of apartheid reveals that the remnants of racial and gender inequality are still embedded within South African society.